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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER

# TERRORISM REVIEW

APRIL 1997

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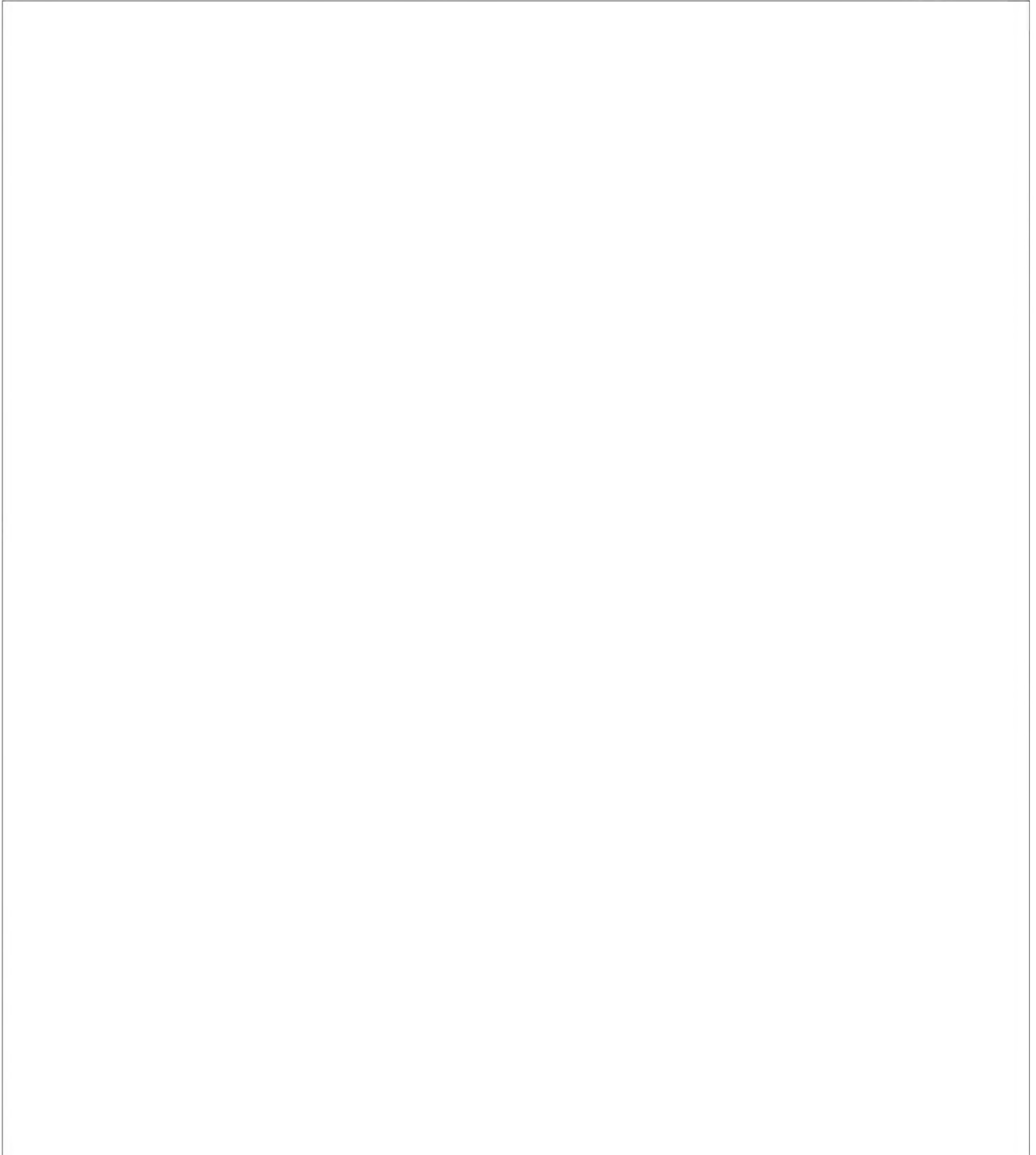
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*Information available as of 17 April 1997 was used in this report.*

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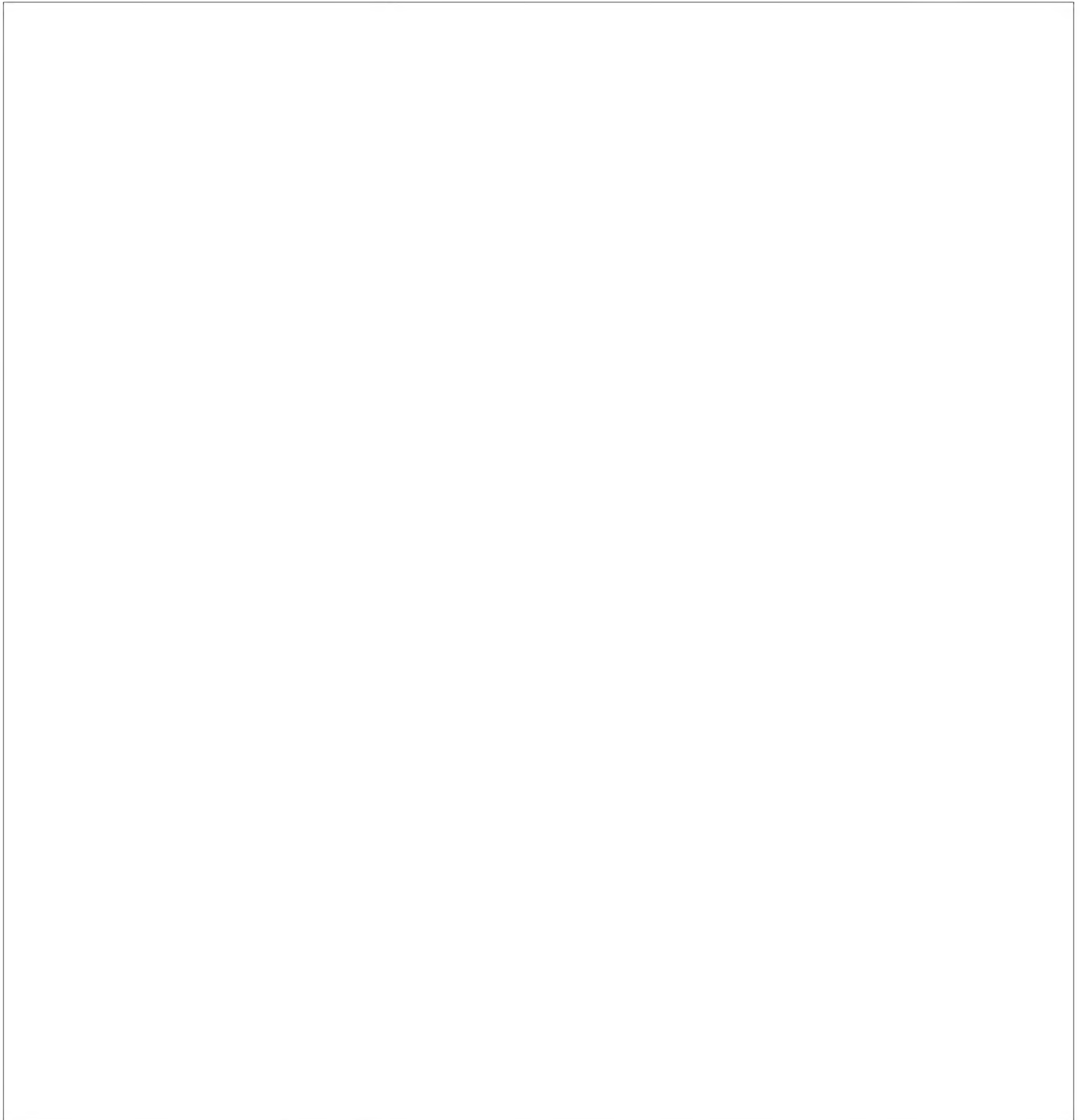


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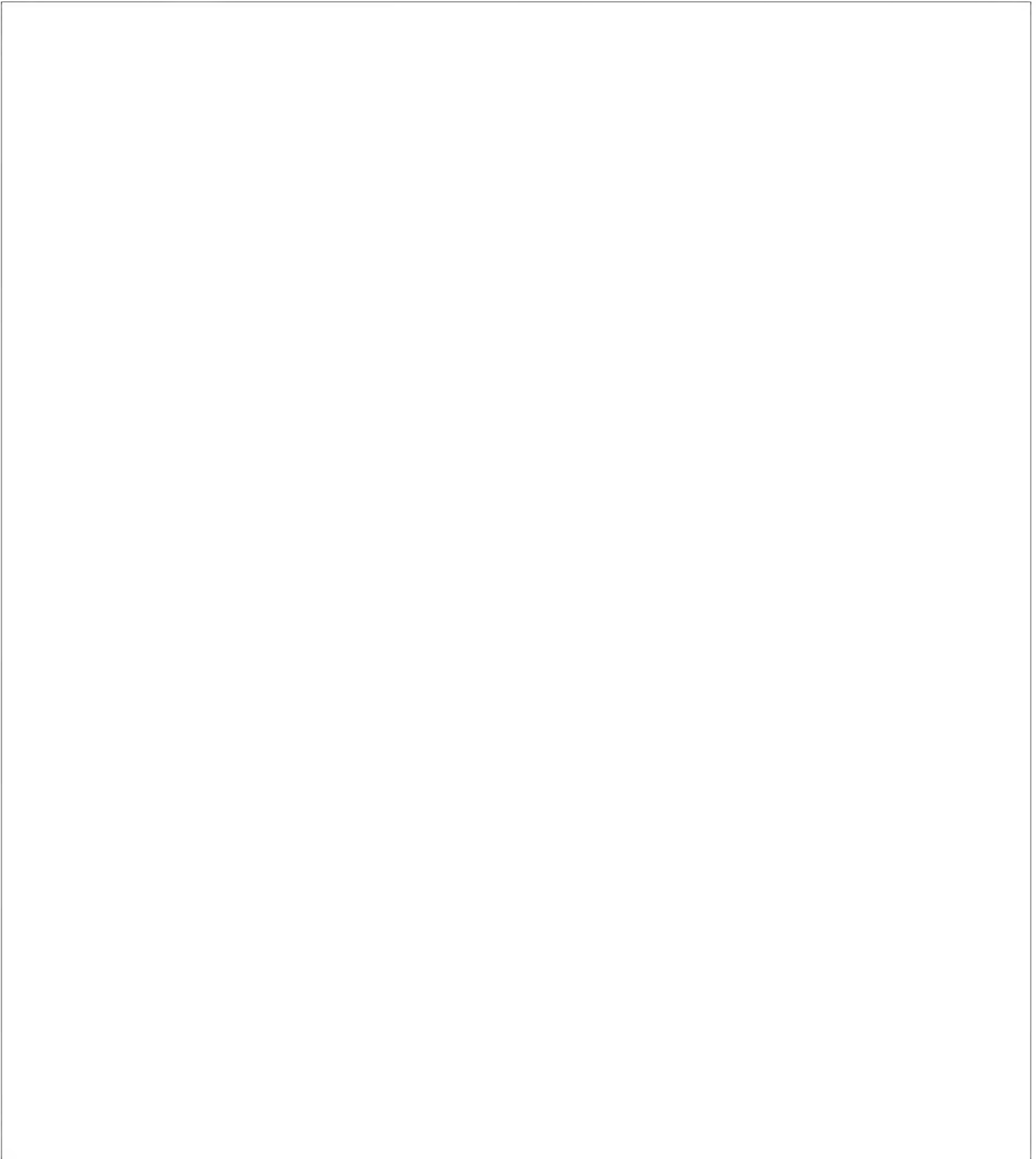
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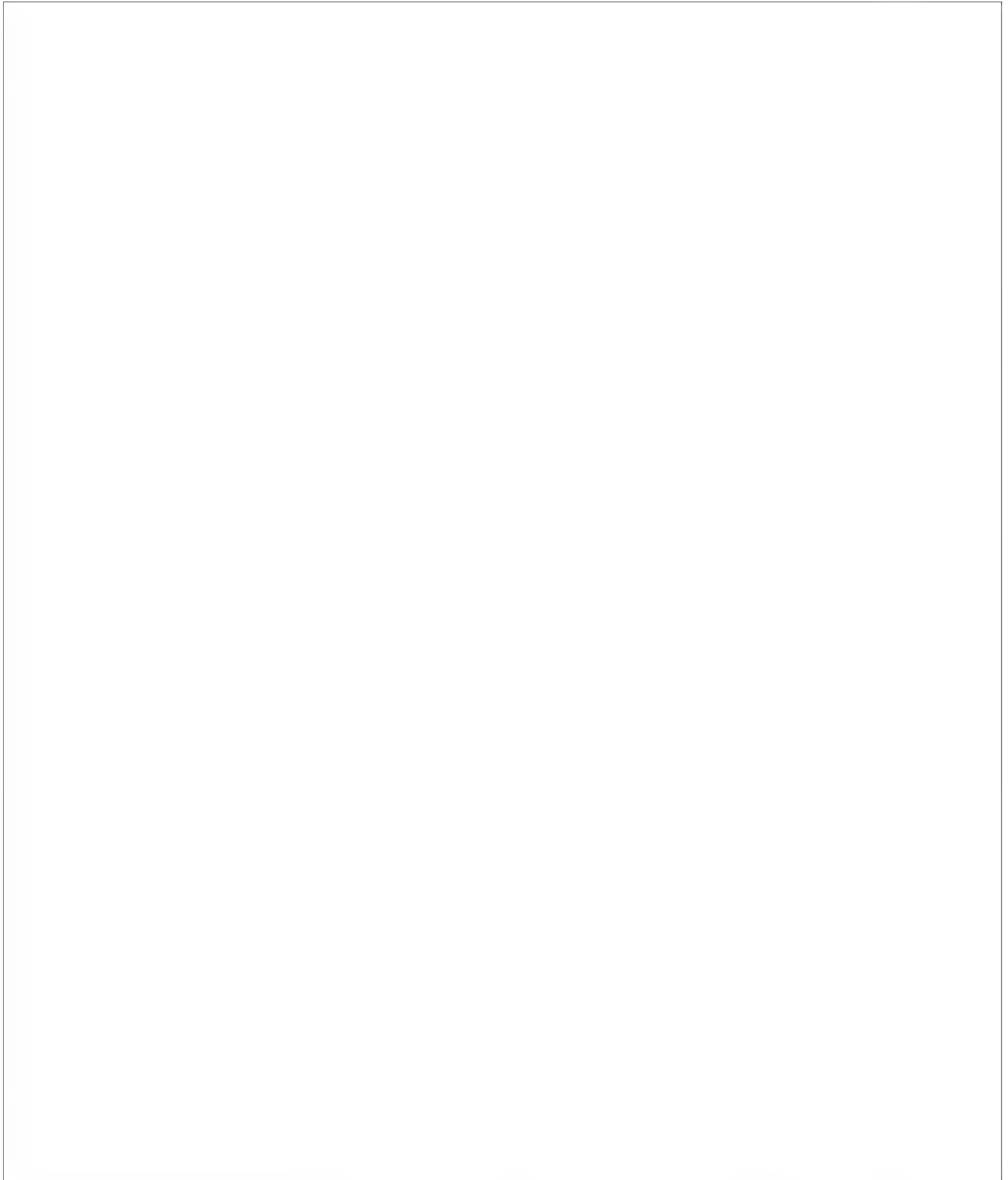
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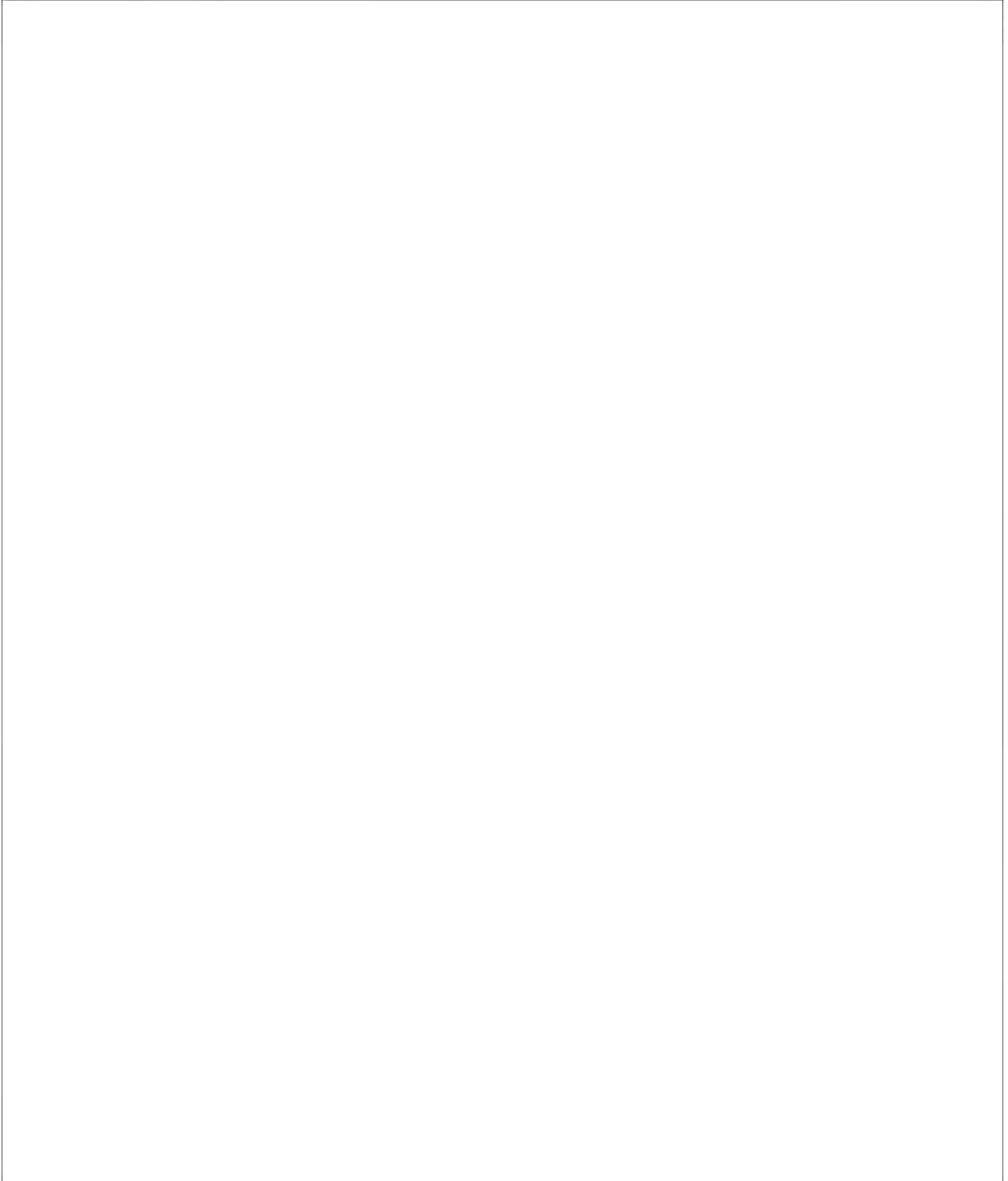
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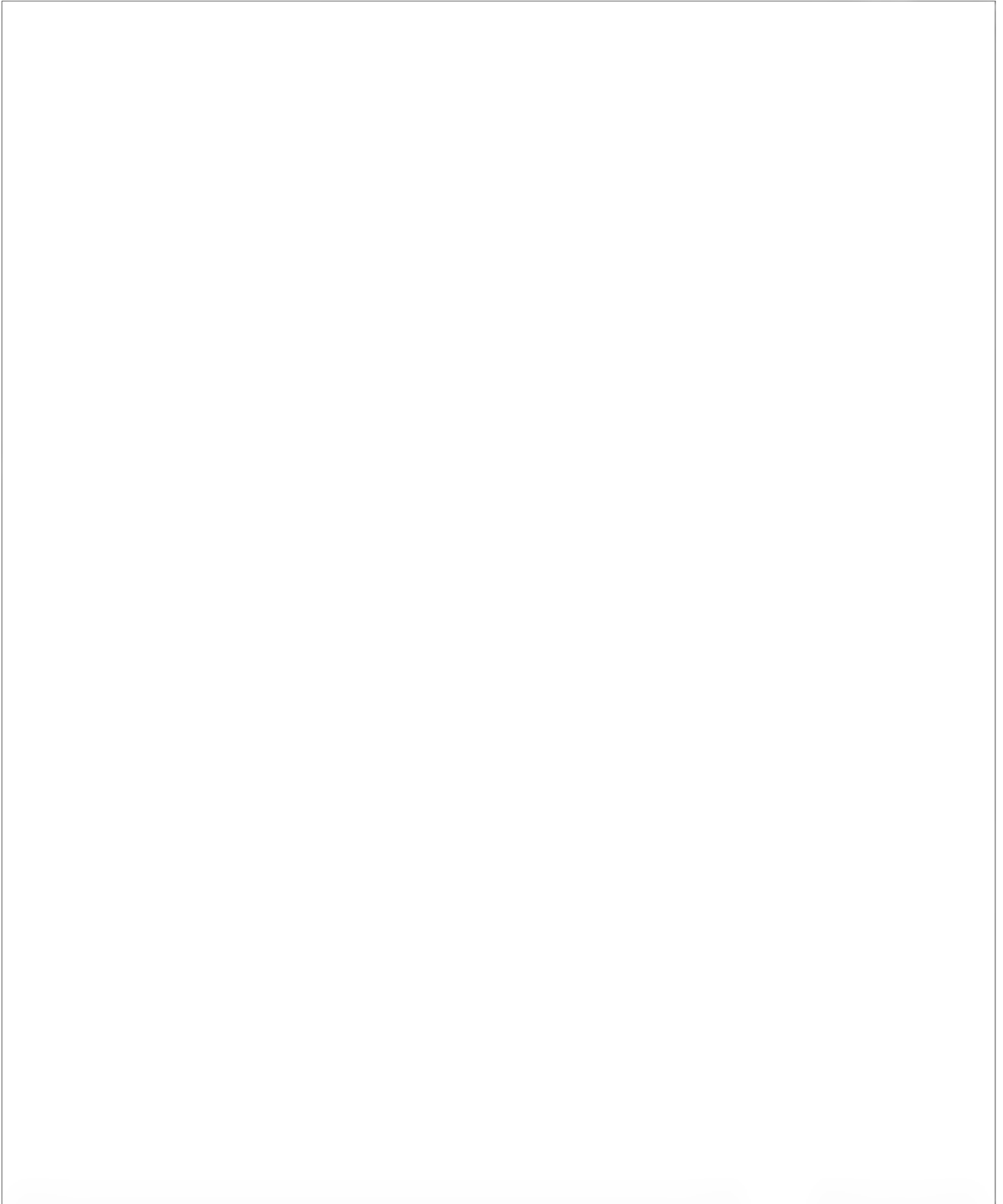


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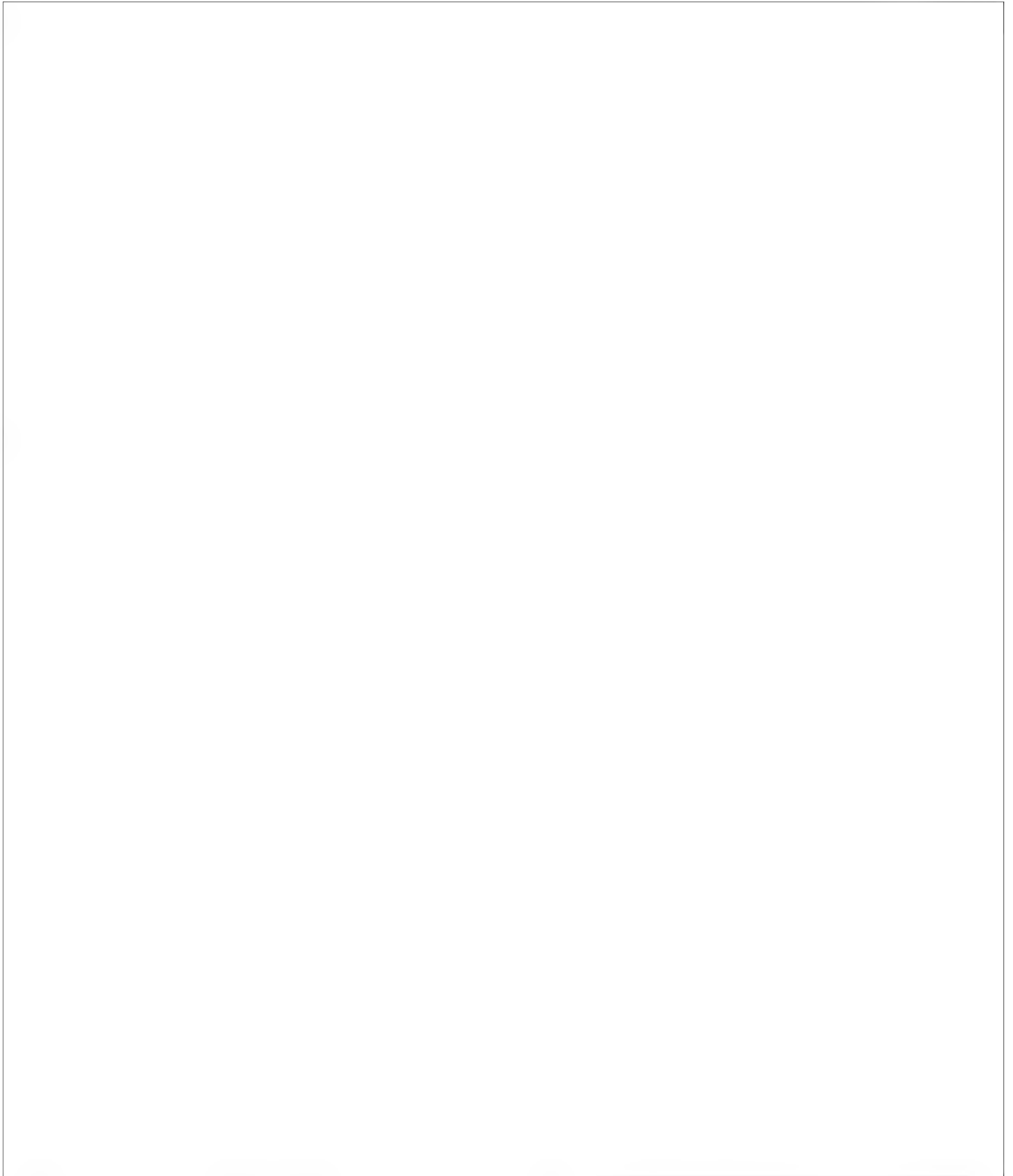
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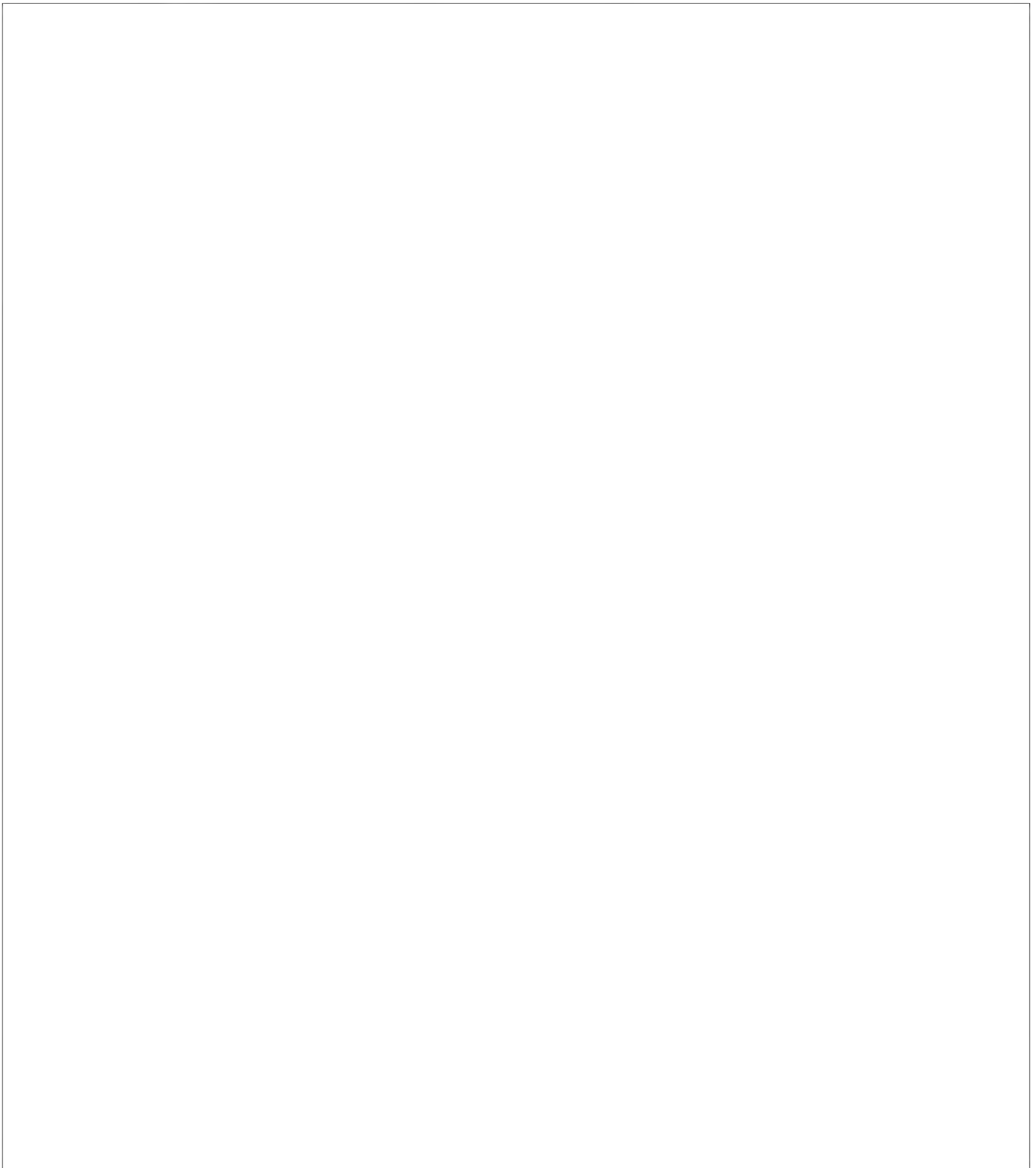
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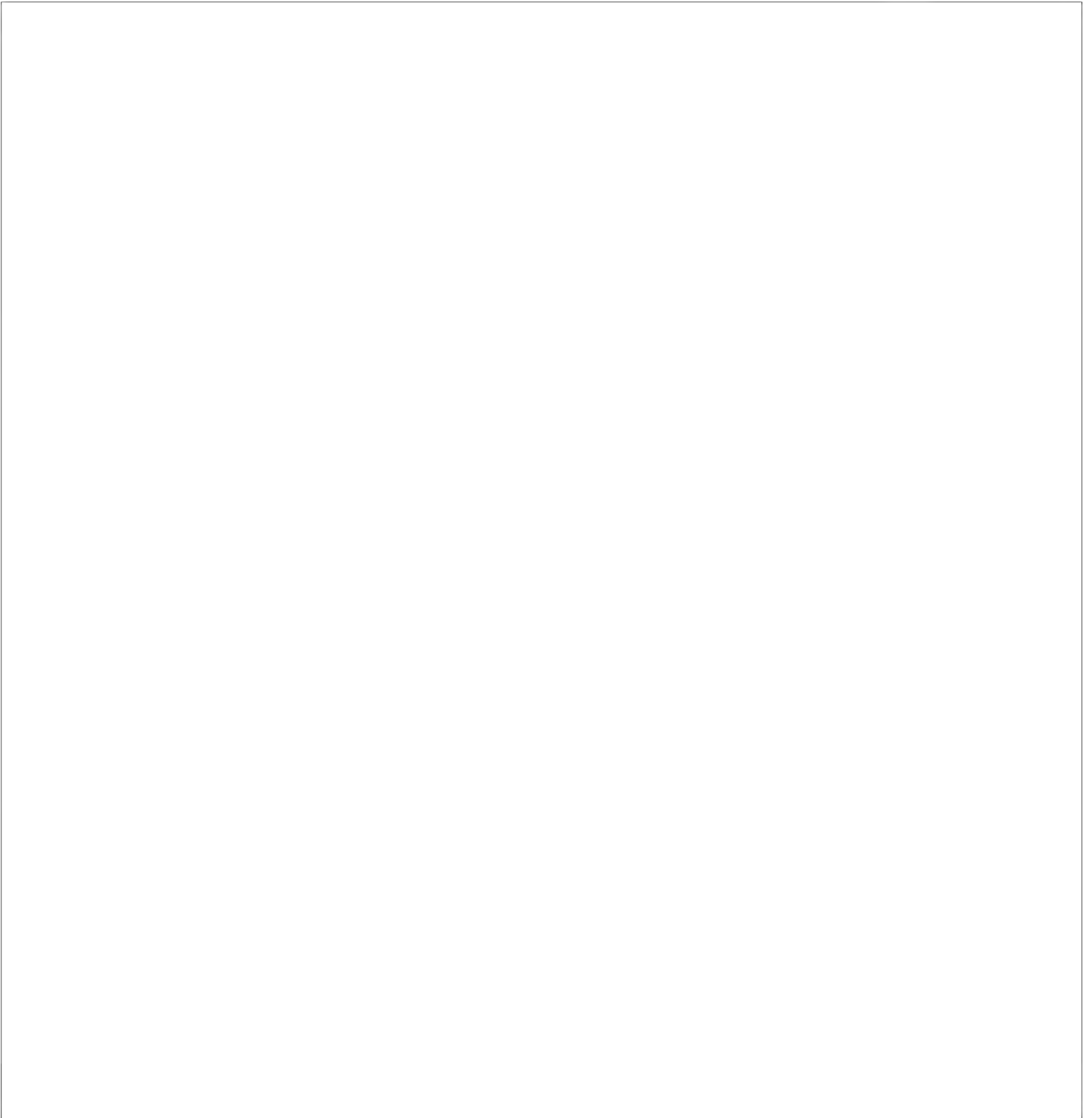
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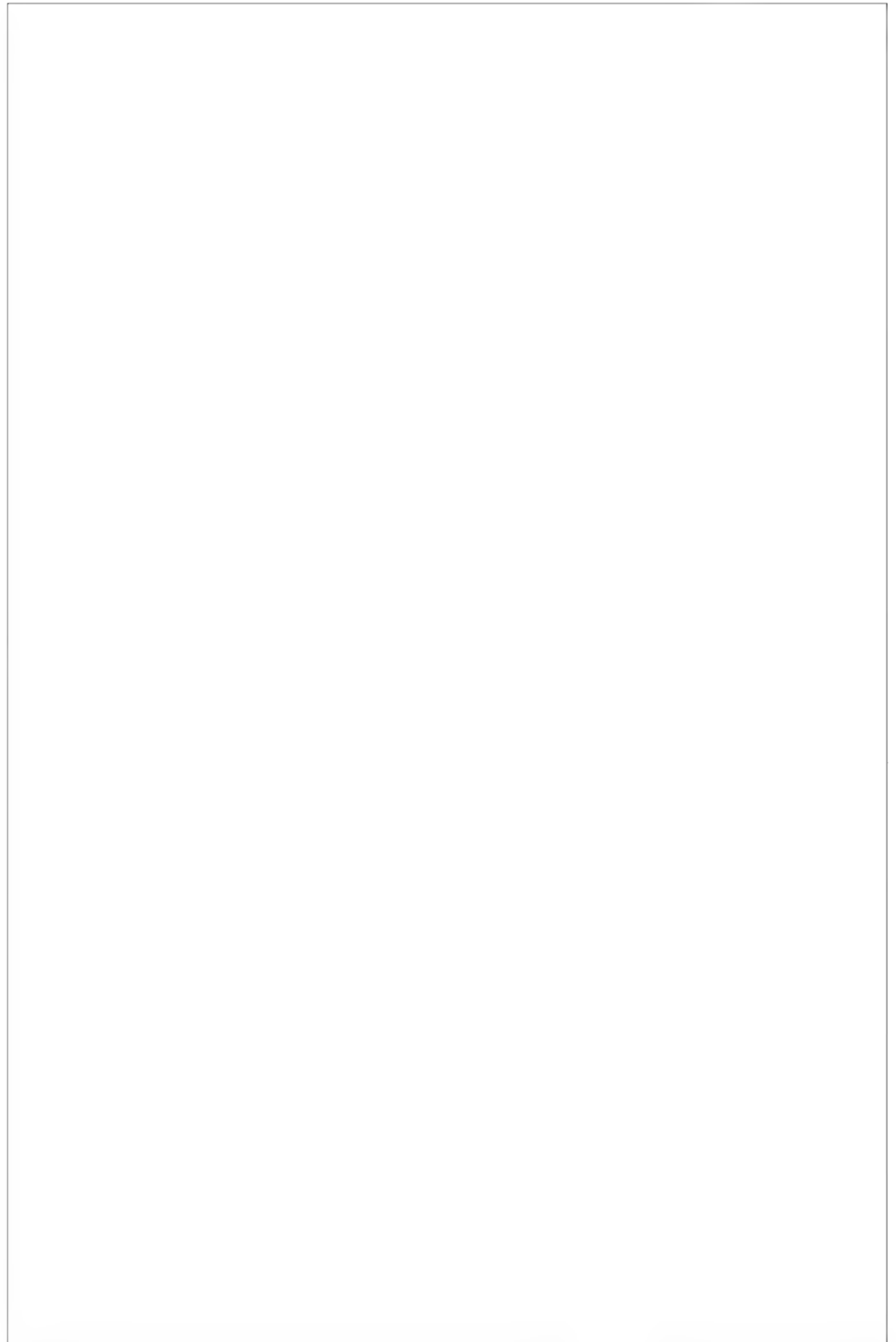
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## The Terrorism Diary for May and June

*Below is a compendium of May and June dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.*

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>1 May</b>       | <b><i>Socialist World.</i></b> May Day (commemorates labor violence in Chicago).  |
| <b>1 May 1980</b>  | <b><i>Peru.</i></b> Destruction of electoral material in Chuschi, Cangallo Province, marks beginning of armed struggle by Sendero Luminoso; anniversary is commemorated by acts of violence throughout May, but especially on 16 May.   |
| <b>2 May 1953</b>  | <b><i>Jordan.</i></b> King Hussein assumed constitutional power.  |
| <b>4 May 1997</b>  | <b><i>Jewish World.</i></b> Commemoration of the Holocaust.   |
| <b>6 May 1900</b>  | <b><i>Iran.</i></b> Birthday of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.  |
| <b>12 May 1997</b> | <b><i>Israel.</i></b> Independence Day.   |
| <b>14 May 1948</b> | <b><i>Middle East.</i></b> Beginning of first Arab-Israeli war.   |
| <b>15 May 1948</b> | <b><i>Palestinians.</i></b> Palestine Day (end of UN mandate); 15 May Organization, founded in 1979 by remnant of Special Operations Group of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), takes its name from this event.   |
| <b>17 May 1983</b> | <b><i>Lebanon, Israel.</i></b> Signing of troop withdrawal accord (known as 17 May agreement).  |
| <b>1 June 1976</b> | <b><i>Palestinians.</i></b> During this month, Syria entered the civil conflict in Lebanon on the side of the Christian Phalange and against the Palestinians and their Muslim allies. In response, Palestinian renegade Abu Nidal renamed his terrorist group (then based in Iraq) the Black June Organization and began attacking Syrian targets. |
| <b>3 June 1989</b> | <b><i>Iran.</i></b> Death of Ayatollah Khomeini.  |
| <b>4 June 1982</b> | <b><i>Israel, Lebanon.</i></b> First Israeli bombing of Beirut.   |
| <b>5 June 1963</b> | <b><i>Iran.</i></b> National Day of Mourning; Revolution Day; Day of Uprising (commemorates the arrest of Ayatollah Khomeini by police under the Shah).   |
| <b>5 June 1967</b> | <b><i>Middle East.</i></b> Beginning of the Six-Day War.  |
| <b>6 June 1982</b> | <b><i>Israel, Lebanon.</i></b> Israeli forces invade Lebanon.   |
| <b>6 June 1984</b> | <b><i>India.</i></b> Army storms the Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar.  |

<b>8 June 1967</b>	<b><i>Palestinians.</i></b> Founding of Palestinian terrorist group Sa'iqa (Thunderbolt).
<b>18 June 1953</b>	<b><i>Egypt.</i></b> Evacuation Day (anniversary of the proclamation of the republic).
<b>25 June 1964</b>	<b><i>Mozambique.</i></b> Founding of the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique.
<b>25 June 1996</b>	<b><i>Saudi Arabia.</i></b> Truck bombing of Khubar Towers facility in Dharan in which 19 US servicemen were killed and hundreds of others were wounded.
<b>26 June 1995</b>	<b><i>Ethiopia.</i></b> Attempted assassination of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.
	<b><i>Italy.</i></b> Arrest of 13 members of the Egyptian al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya in Milan.



## Chronology of International Terrorism

*The following incidents were considered by the Intelligence Community's Incident Review Panel since publication of the previous issue of the Terrorism Review and were determined by the Panel to constitute international terrorism. Such incidents provide the basis for the State Department's Patterns of Global Terrorism, which is published annually as the US Government's official record of international terrorism.*

**Africa**

**8 February**

**Angola: Separatists from the Cabinda Liberation Front—Cabindan Armed Forces (FLEC-FAC) kidnapped a Malaysian and a Filipino forest engineer in Cabinda.** [ ] the two were charged with spying for the Angolan Government and would be punished according to revolutionary law, either by expulsion or death. *FLEC-FAC* issued an ultimatum to Western companies to leave the enclave of Cabinda or become targets in the guerrilla struggle for independence. [ ]

**10 February**

**Ethiopia: Two unidentified gunmen tried to bypass security guards at the Belaneh Hotel in Harer, killing the security officer and wounding one other person.** The gunmen then threw grenades into the hotel lounge, wounding three Britons, one German, one Dutchman, one French citizen. No group claimed responsibility for the attack. [ ]

**Asia**

**20 February**

**Pakistan: Unidentified gunmen shot and killed the chief of the Iranian Cultural Center and six other persons in Multan.** No group claimed responsibility. [ ]

**Latin America**

**12 February**

**Venezuela: Suspected Colombian guerrillas kidnapped two oil engineers in Apure.** The two workers were snatched from oil fields and taken into Colombian territory. [ ]

**14 February**

**Venezuela: Suspected Colombian guerrillas kidnapped a US oil engineer and his Venezuelan pilot in Apure.** The plane had just landed at a fishing camp when six armed men took the two men and the plane. The kidnappers released the pilot on 22 February. Authorities suspect the *Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)*. [ ]

**15 February**

**Ecuador: Achuar Indians kidnapped a US geologist, a British technical assistant, and two Ecuadorian scientists in Shimi.** The four captives were employed by an Argentine company conducting research in an area being explored for oil. The kidnappers released the two Ecuadorians the next day and freed the US citizen and British citizen on 22 February. [ ]

**27 February**

**Ecuador: Unknown assailants using submachineguns opened fire on the future new Peruvian Embassy building in Quito, damaging the building.** [ ]

**3 March**

**Colombia: A group of unidentified rebels blew up a French-operated oil well in Trinidad.** A stretch of oil pipeline and some homes also were destroyed. [ ]

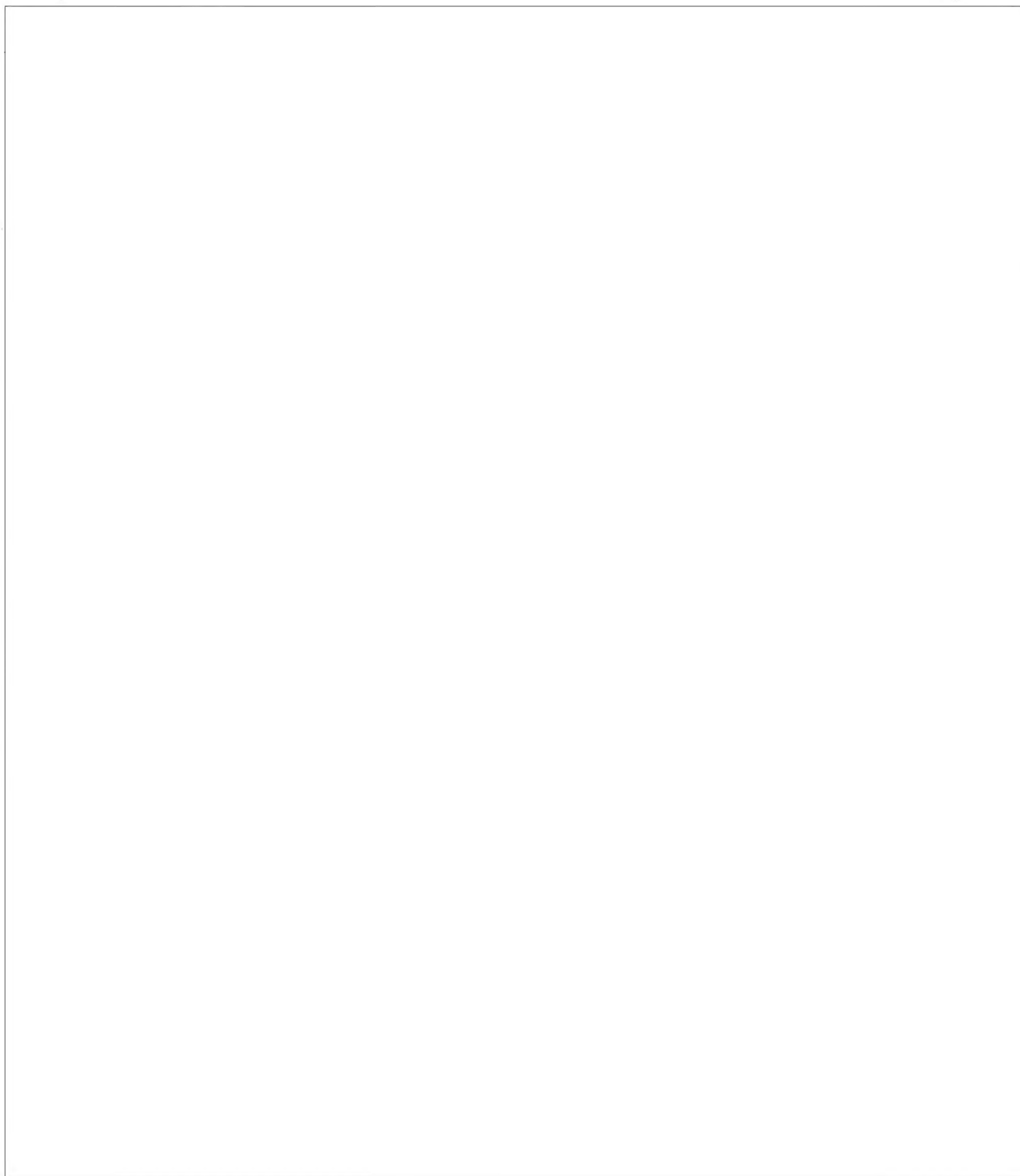
**North America**

**23 February**

**United States: A Palestinian gunman entered the observation deck at the Empire State building in New York City and opened fire on tourists, killing a Danish man and wounding visitors from the US, Argentina, Switzerland, and France before turning the gun on himself.** A note carried by the gunman indicated that this was a punishment attack against the "enemies of Palestine." [ ]



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## Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—March 1997

*This description of incidents and situations is not meant to be a detailed accounting of all domestic terrorist incidents, but rather to provide an overview of indigenous terrorism worldwide.*

### Asia

#### China

A crude pipe bomb exploded on a bus in a busy shopping area in Beijing on 7 March, killing three persons and injuring eight others. A Uyghur separatist group called the *Eastern Turkestan Freedom Organization* claimed responsibility.

#### India

On 15 March in the Nalbari District of Assam, suspected *United Liberation Front of Assam* militants ambushed a vehicle owned by the manager of a tea plantation, killing the manager's wife and two police escorts.

Four unidentified gunmen shot and killed a Kashmiri journalist and his security guard on 16 March in Srinagar. The victim, the eighth Kashmiri journalist killed since 1989, produced a television program called *Kashmir File*.

#### Philippines

On 17 March suspected members of the *Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG)* fired rocket launchers into a market in Isabela, Zamboanga, wounding three persons.

#### Sri Lanka

On 16 March *Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)* militants detonated a Claymore mine in the path of a bus in Maradankerni, killing two civilians and injuring eight others.

### Europe

#### Spain

On 2 March suspected *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* militants hurled several Molotov cocktails at the Pamplona home of a member of the Navarre regional parliament, causing major damage to the residence but no injuries.

Two gunmen shot and killed a prison psychologist as he walked to work in San Sebastian on 11 March. One assailant was apprehended and identified as a member of *ETA*.

On 26 March unidentified assailants threw incendiary devices at a building in Pamplona housing the region's Catholic archdiocese, causing minor damage but no injuries. Authorities suspect youth members or sympathizers of *ETA*.

#### Turkey

On 8 March a bomb exploded in front of a Turkish Air League office in Istanbul, causing minor damage but no casualties. No one claimed responsibility. Authorities later arrested eight members of the *Greater Eastern Islamic Fighters Front (IBDA-C)* in connection with the bombing.

[REDACTED]

On 12 March in Istanbul, a bomb exploded at the entrance level of the Uskudar governor's building, causing minor damage but no casualties. No one claimed responsibility, but the *IBDA-C* is suspected. [REDACTED]

Assailants detonated a bomb next to an automatic teller machine in Istanbul on 13 March, causing minor damage but no casualties. The *Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)* or the *IBDA-C* is suspected. [REDACTED]

On 22 March an explosive device found at the entrance to the Aksaray metro station in Istanbul was defused. The *PKK* is suspected. [REDACTED]

#### **United Kingdom**

On 2 March police forces found and defused a loaded mortar hidden in a car in Warrenpoint, Northern Ireland, after receiving a warning call from a person claiming to speak for the *Irish Republican Army (IRA)*. [REDACTED]

In Belfast, Northern Ireland, a bomb placed behind a garden wall detonated on 6 March as a military foot patrol passed nearby, causing minor material damage but no injuries. The *IRA* is probably responsible. [REDACTED]

Suspected *IRA* militants hurled explosive devices at police foot patrols in two Belfast neighborhoods on 13 March, injuring two British soldiers and a policeman. [REDACTED]

Unidentified gunmen shot and killed a Catholic man at his Belfast home on 14 March. No one claimed responsibility, but authorities suspect loyalist militants may have mistaken the victim for a member of the *Irish National Liberation Army (INLA)*. [REDACTED]

On 26 March two explosive devices detonated along a railway line in Wilmslow, UK, causing extensive damage to signaling and track equipment and disrupting train service in Scotland, London, and northern England. The *IRA* claimed responsibility. [REDACTED]

#### **Latin America**

##### **Colombia**

Twenty *Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)* guerrillas killed nine persons and wounded five others on 9 March at a discotheque in Currulao. The rebels opened fire after a bomb set there failed to detonate. [REDACTED]

On 17 March a car bomb exploded in a Cucuta neighborhood, killing a baby and injuring the baby's mother and uncle. The attack may have been targeting the national police director who was visiting the city at the time. The vehicle had Venezuelan license plates and was seen in the caravan that accompanied the director during his visit. *National Liberation Army (ELN)* guerrillas are suspected in the attack. [REDACTED]

Some 60 men claiming to belong to the *FARC* burned 14 houses, milking pens, and farm equipment on 20 March in Codasi. [redacted]

**Peru**

On 15 March eight suspected *Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA)* guerrillas attacked a textile shop in Lima. The armed men entered the shop, stated they were *MRTA* members, and demanded payment from the owners, who refused. The men searched the shop, stole over \$10,000, and then hurled at least one bomb or grenade into the store, igniting a fire that caused severe damage. Before leaving they allegedly wrote *MRTA* slogans on the walls of the building. [redacted]  
the attackers may have been common criminals posing as *MRTA* guerrillas. [redacted]

**Middle East**

**Algeria**

A bomb exploded on 3 March near a cafe in Oued El Alleug, outside of Algiers, injuring three persons. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted]

[redacted]

**Israel**

A suicide bomber detonated a bomb in a Tel Aviv cafe on 21 March, killing three persons and injuring 40. *HAMAS* claimed responsibility for the attack, but [redacted]  
[redacted] also suspect the *Palestine Islamic Jihad (PIJ)* was involved. [redacted]